

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO
EASTERN DIVISION**

United States of America,)	CASE NO. 5:11 CR 412
)	5:16 CV 1611
)	
Plaintiff-Respondent,)	JUDGE PATRICIA A. GAUGHAN
)	
Vs.)	
)	
Michael A. Welch,)	<u>Memorandum of Opinion and Order</u>
)	
Defendant-Petitioner.)	

Pending before the Court is petitioner’s Motion for Relief Under 28 U.S.C. § 2255 (Doc. 56). In his motion, petitioner relies on *Johnson v. United States*, 135 S. Ct. 2551, 2563 (2015), to argue that he was unconstitutionally sentenced under the residual clause of U.S.S.G. § 2K2.1 which requires that a defendant have two qualifying “crimes of violence.” In *Johnson*, the United States Supreme Court struck down the residual clause of the Armed Career Criminal Act’s definition of a “violent felony” as void for vagueness. More recently, however, the Supreme Court held in *Beckles v. United States*, – U.S. –, – S. Ct. –, 2017 WL 855781 (U.S. Mar. 6, 2017), that the United States Sentencing Guidelines are not subject to a vagueness challenge under the Due Process Clause. Thus, *Johnson*’s vagueness holding does not apply to the

Sentencing Guideline provision under which petitioner was sentenced. Petitioner's motion is, therefore, DENIED.

Furthermore, the Court certifies, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)(3), that an appeal from this decision could not be taken in good faith, and that there is no basis upon which to issue a certificate of appealability. 28 U.S.C. § 2253; Fed. R. App. P. 22(b).

IT IS SO ORDERED.

/s/ Patricia A. Gaughan
PATRICIA A. GAUGHAN
United States District Judge

Dated: 5/24/17